



MI-CW3009

# Michigan Crop Weather

July 27, 2009

## Varied Precipitation

Five days were suitable for fieldwork during the week ending July 26, according to the USDA, NASS, Michigan Field Office. Precipitation varied from 0.23 inches in the southwest Lower Peninsula to 2.17 inches in the east central Lower Peninsula. Average temperatures ranged from 4 degrees below normal in the Lower Peninsula and western Upper Peninsula to 3 degrees below normal in the eastern Upper Peninsula. Scattered thunderstorms delivered varied amounts of precipitation across the State. Although the damp conditions limited harvest activities, growers welcomed the much needed rainfall. Some areas of the State remained dry where limited amounts of rain were received. Most crop conditions were improved with the recent rainfall; however crop development remained behind normal due to cool temperatures. Growers continued to report the need for warmer temperatures to advance crop development. A grower in the northwest commented, "Corn is far behind its usual stage of development for the time of year. A long warm fall will be necessary."

## Field Crops

Welcomed rain showers appeared, while cooler temperatures remained present. A reporter in the southeast stated, "Some rain in the last week and this weekend are the million dollar rains. It should help all of the crops as they are all in need at this time." **Wheat** harvest was underway. Some farmers in the south central were taking wheat off wet because it had not dried out enough between rain showers. In the northwest, wheat was ready to be harvested but needed warmer temperatures. Frequent rain showers in the Thumb caused concern about the wheat crop; some sprouting had occurred. **Oats** in the central were not turning evenly. **Corn** and **soybeans** benefitted from the moisture, but both crops were not as tall as to they should be by this time in the growing season. Corn tasseling was variable throughout the State. **Alfalfa** harvest continued with many farmers having received a second cutting. Those farmers who had gotten their second cutting were pleased with the quality. Some were looking towards a third cutting. A reporter in the northwest stated, "Rain showers for the past 5 days have stopped haying activity." **Sugarbeets** benefitted from the rain last week, as soils were very dry. There were reports of Cercospora leaf spot in some fields. **Dry beans** continued to progress and were looking good. However, dry bean farmers were encountering cases of root rot.

Soil moisture for week ending 07/26/09

Stratum	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Topsoil	13	28	53	6
Subsoil	6	38	53	3

Perbeans

Crop condition for week ending 07/26/09

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
All Hay	3	8	28	50	11
Corn	2	11	35	42	10
Dry beans	5	14	39	34	8
Oats	2	5	29	56	8
Pasture	8	12	34	39	7
Soybeans	3	11	38	43	5
Winter Wheat	15	41	40	17	5
Perbeans	7	44	40	7	2

## Fruit

**Apples** were 42 mm in the northwest; obliquebanded leafrollers were found. In the southeast, apples continued to size well as hand thinning wrapped up. Japanese beetle populations were slowly building. **Blueberry** harvest continued; many different varieties were being picked. Harvest of early variety **peaches** continued. **Pears** continued to size well; most were 1.75 inches in diameter. European **plums** were 1 inch in diameter. Harvest of summer **raspberries** continued. Newly planted **strawberries** continued to runner well and had filled out rows on most farms in the southwest. **Sweet cherry** harvest was underway in the northwest. Although a few cracks were evident, fruit appeared to be in good condition. **Tart cherry** harvest progressed in the west central and northwest. **Grapes** were at cluster tightening in the northwest; grape berry moth feeding was evident in a few vineyards.

## Vegetables

Warm season-crops continued to be one to two weeks behind in development due to cooler temperatures. Irrigation was underway where it was available. Early **sweet corn** harvest started in southern Michigan. Across the State, observers noted European corn borer trap catches were down, but cutworm traps were up. **Cucumber** and **summer squash** harvest continued with some downy mildew problems reported. **Pumpkin** development was highly variable as wet weather delayed planting and cool temperatures slowed development. In the southwest, **tomatoes** grown under low tunnels and early **cantaloupes** were being harvested. **Potatoes** were reported to be in excellent condition on upland fields, where flooding did not occur this spring. In the Grand Rapids area, many **pepper** fields were developing fruit, while **eggplant** was in the flowering stage. Some peppers were harvested in the southeast. **Onion** bulb and **leek** development continued; in the West Central region, onions were reported in good condition, while in the East Central region, some purple blotch and thrips have been observed. Seeding and harvest of **radishes** and **cabbage** continued; growers reported that cole crops have thrived with the cooler weather. **Celery** harvest was well underway, and the last transplants have been placed in the ground. **Snap beans** were growing normally in most areas, while fern in asparagus fields was developing very slowly. **Carrot** growers continued to monitor fields for pests and disease.

Crop progress for week ending 07/26/09

ahPerter Whewt

Michigan Weather Summary for Week Ending 07/26/09 <sup>1</sup>												
Station	Temperature			Cumulative growing degree days <sup>2</sup>			Precipitation					
	Maximum	Minimum	Departure from normal	2009	2008	Normal	This week	Last two weeks	Last four weeks	Since April 1	Normal	
											Since April 1	For month
Ironwood	75	45		966	1,021		0.64	1.40	1.69	9.08		
Marquette	75	45		845	949		0.64	1.40	1.69	9.09		
Stephenson	81	44		1,119	1,261		0.33	0.43	0.55	9.35		
<b>Western UP</b>	81	40	-4	948	1,020	1,100	0.79	1.38	1.64	9.34	12.14	3.42
Cornell	76	47		1,039	1,113		1.00	1.20	1.42	8.04		
Sault St Marie	77	46		850	962		1.06	1.75	2.40	9.38		
<b>Eastern UP</b>	79	44	-3	862	961	925	0.94	1.46	2.51	10.09	11.29	3.19
Beulah	82	47		1,158	1,342		0.91	0.91	2.05	10.69		
Lake City	81	48		1,113	1,288		1.13	1.17	2.05	12.21		
Old Mission	83	46		1,066	1,268		1.53	1.57	3.02	8.13		
Pellston	79	42		1,005	1,233		0.71	0.98	1.54	6.42		
<b>Northwest</b>	83	42	-4	1,053	1,238	1,252	0.89	1.00	1.91	8.51	10.91	2.99
Alpena	78	48		1,063	1,279		2.87	3.18	4.15	12.51		
Houghton Lake	81	46		1,107	1,336		2.28	2.37	2.75	12.13		
Rogers City	80	48		1,054	1,227		1.20	1.33	2.55	10.87		
<b>Northeast</b>	83	44	-4	1,078	1,292	1,207	2.11	2.32	3.01	11.65	10.87	3.18
Fremont	82	46		1,279	1,423		0.33	0.69	1.31	10.01		
Hart	82	43		1,199	1,340		0.61	0.71	1.35	12.99		
Muskegon	82	50		1,371	1,407		0.03	0.63	1.15	10.29		
<b>West Central</b>	84	43	-4	1,265	1,374	1,378	0.51	0.83	1.55	11.59	10.87	2.54
Alma	82	51		1,302	1,523		0.56	0.65	1.16	14.21		
Big Rapids	82	50		1,250	1,462		0.51	0.65	1.79	12.01		
<b>Central</b>	82	47	-4	1,271	1,477	1,442	0.76	0.91	1.65	12.18	11.73	2.97
Bad Axe	81	55		1,176	1,467		3.87	4.26	4.88	14.95		
Pigeon	80	53		1,172	1,423		3.18	3.24	4.10	14.21		
Saginaw	83	52		1,321	1,574		0.94	1.03	2.35	13.12		
Standish	81	49		1,184	1,383		1.30	1.33	1.93	11.63		
<b>East Central</b>	83	49	-4	1,180	1,477	1,427	2.17	2.31	3.21	13.85	10.74	2.92
Fennville	81	49		1,343	1,433		0.00	0.63	1.25	13.73		
Grand Rapids	81	51		1,488	1,660		0.09	0.94	2.46	16.54		
Holland	83	52		1,567	1,651		0.42	1.24	1.82	21.28		
South Bend, IN	83	51		1,624	1,726		0.40	0.88	1.44	13.60		
Watervliet	82	50		1,458	1,572		0.24	0.79	1.22	12.47		
<b>Southwest</b>	83	45	-4	1,473	1,590	1,554	0.23	0.79	1.29	13.65	12.59	3.09
Belding	81	45		1,283	1,471		2.63	2.91	3.27	13.77		
Coldwater	83	51		1,525	1,570		0.67	0.67	1.00	13.70		
Lansing	82	54		1,395	1,618		2.31	2.32	3.02	17.87		
<b>South Central</b>	83	45	-4	1,383	1,573	1,542	1.16	1.36	2.11	14.83	12.37	3.22
Detroit	81	59		1,583	1,776		0.99	1.27	2.47	15.57		
Flint	79	52		1,369	1,669		0.77	1.68	2.72	17.03		
Romeo	81	54		1,358	1,549		1.27	1.31	2.01	11.71		
Tipton	81	49		1,448	1,605		0.57	0.63	1.21	13.03		
Toledo, OH	82	56		1,624	1,753		1.03	1.19	1.52	12.97		
<b>Southeast</b>	83	49	-4	1,445	1,646	1,517	0.65	0.91	1.46	12.76	12.04	3.11

<sup>1</sup>Issued by the USDA, NASS, Michigan Field Office in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Commerce, Michigan State University's Cooperative Extension Service, Agricultural Meteorologist, Department of Geography, and Crop Advisory Team ALERTS.

<sup>2</sup>Growing degree days (GDD) is the sum of daily mean temperatures minus 50 per day, 86 maximum and 50 minimum. The GDD is accumulative from April 1.